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PTO/SB/21 (09-08)

Approved for use through 10/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/574,865
	Filing Date	October 1, 2004
	First Named Inventor	Herbert Wehler
	Art Unit	3651
	Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	10016.509

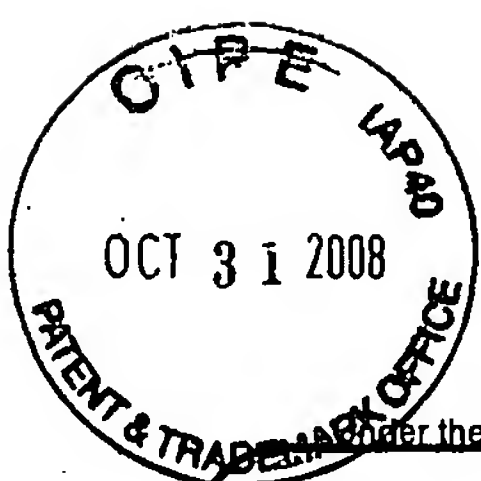
ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): PTO/SB 08a (2pp); PTO/SB 08b (1p) and 19 documents
Remarks THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL FEES THAT MAY BE REQUIRED WITH RESPECT TO THIS COMMUNICATION, OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT, TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 50-2911.		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	SMITH LAW OFFICE		
Signature	<i>[Handwritten signature: Jeffry W. Smith]</i>		
Printed name	Jeffry W. Smith		
Date	October 31, 2008	Reg. No.	33455

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:			
Signature			
Typed or printed name		Date	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/21 (09-08)

Approved for use through 10/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031

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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number

10/574,865

Filing Date

October 1, 2004

First Named Inventor

Herbert Wehler

Art Unit

3651

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

10016.509

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

Fee Transmittal Form



Fee Attached



Amendment/Reply



After Final



Affidavits/declaration(s)



Extension of Time Request



Express Abandonment Request



Information Disclosure Statement



Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

Reply to Missing Parts/
Incomplete ApplicationReply to Missing Parts
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

Drawing(s)



Licensing-related Papers



Petition

Petition to Convert to a
Provisional ApplicationPower of Attorney, Revocation
Change of Correspondence Address

Terminal Disclaimer



Request for Refund



CD, Number of CD(s) _____



Landscape Table on CD



After Allowance Communication to TC

Appeal Communication to Board
of Appeals and InterferencesAppeal Communication to TC
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)

Proprietary Information



Status Letter

Other Enclosure(s) (please identify
below):PTO/SB 08a (2pp); PTO/SB 08b (1p) and 19
documents

Remarks

THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL FEES
THAT MAY BE REQUIRED WITH RESPECT TO THIS COMMUNICATION, OR CREDIT ANY
OVERPAYMENT, TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 50-2911.**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm Name

SMITH LAW OFFICE

Signature

Printed name

Jeffrey W. Smith

Date

October 31, 2008

Reg. No.

33455

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILINGI hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with
sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on
the date shown below:

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Date

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



EXPRESS MAIL LETTER

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Wehler et al.
Int'l Filing Date: October 1, 2004
Application No.: 10/574,865
For: LINK PLATE, CHAIN LINK, ENERGY GUIDING CHAIN, AND INTERMEDIATE
PIECE FOR AN ENERGY GUIDING CHAIN, PROVIDED WITH LOCKING MEANS
COUPLED BY TORSION FOR CONNECTING A FLIGHT TO A LINK PLATE
Docket No.: 10016.509
Express Mail No.: EM263573495US
Date of Deposit: October 31, 2008

I hereby certify that these attached documents

- Response postcard
- PTO/SB 21 (1p) and 1 copy
- Information Disclosure Statement (4pp); PTO/SB 08a (2pp); PTO/SB 08b (1p) and 19 documents

are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 35 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the *Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313-1450*

(Jeffrey W. Smith, Reg. No. 33455)

Enclosed for filing please find the above-referenced documents. Please indicate receipt of these documents by returning the attached postcard with the official Patent and Trademark Office receipt stamped thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey W. Smith, Reg. No. 33455

Attorney for Applicant

SMITH LAW OFFICE

8000 Excelsior Drive, Suite 301

Madison, WI 53717

(608) 824-8300



PATENT APPLICATION

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant: Wehler et al.
Docket No.: 10016.509
Date: October 31, 2008
Application No.: 10/574,865
Int'l Filing Date: October 1, 2004
Art Unit: 3651
Examiner:

For: LINK PLATE, CHAIN LINK, ENERGY GUIDING CHAIN, AND
INTERMEDIATE PIECE FOR AN ENERGY GUIDING CHAIN, PROVIDED
WITH LOCKING MEANS COUPLED BY TORSION FOR CONNECTING A
FLIGHT TO A LINK PLATE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants request that this Information Disclosure Statement be considered because it has
been filed within the following time period:

37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

____ Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than
a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);

____ Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in
§1.491 in an international application;

x Before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits;

____ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this
correspondence is being deposited with
the United States Postal Service as
Express Mail in an envelope addressed
to: Mail Stop Amendment,
Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On October 31, 2008

Signature Jeffrey W. Smith

Jeffrey W. Smith, Reg. No. 33455
Name of Applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Applicant: Wehler et al.
Application No.: 10/574,865

for continued examination under §1.114;
37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(d)

_____ Before the mailing of any of a final action under §1.113;

_____ Before a notice of allowance under §1.311;

_____ An action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application; or

_____ Filed on or before payment of the issue fee

And is accompanied by a:

Statement specified in §1.97(e):

_____ Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement; or

_____ No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

_____ The fee set forth in §1.17(p).

Applicant: Wehler et al.
Application No.: 10/574,865

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants call the attention of the Examiner to the following documents:

United States Patents

<u>U.S. Patent No.</u>	<u>Patentee</u>	<u>Issue/Publication Date</u>
4,570,437	Moritz	02-18-1986
4,807,432	Mauri	02-28-1989
5,157,913	Wehler et al.	10-27-1992
5,996,330	Ehmann et al.	12-07-1999
6,176,072	Weber	01-23-2001
2002/005636 A1	Blase	05-16-2002

Foreign Patent Documents

<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Patentee</u>	<u>Issue/Publication Date</u>
WO 98/34040	Fanning	08-06-1998
WO 98/34050	Weber	08-06-1998
WO 00/63586	Blase	10-26-2000
DE 33 18 365 A1	Mortiz	11-22-1984
DE 41 05 653 A1	Wehler et al.	09-03-1992
DE 82 13 664.5	Springfix GmbH	08-19-1982
DE 196 47 080 A1	Ehmann et al.	05-28-1998
DE 198 26 749 A1	Ehmann et al.	12-23-1999
DE 297 21 588 U1	Flexatec GmbH	04-02-1998
EP 1 094 585 A1	Komiya et al.	04-25-2001

Other Documents

English language Abstract, Translated Description and Claims of WO 00/63586, European Patent Office's esp@cenet.com database, 4pp.

English language Translated Description and Claims of DE 82 13 664.5, European Patent Office's esp@cenet.com database, 3pp.

English language Abstract, Translated Description and Claims of DE 198 26 749 A1, European Patent Office's esp@cenet.com database, 4pp.

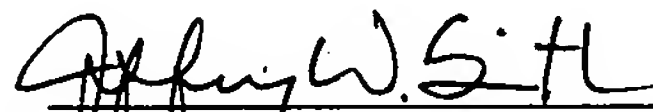
Applicant: Wehler et al.
Application No.: 10/574,865

Please note that the "Translated Description and Claims" referenced above are downloaded from the European Patent Office's esp@esp@cenet.com database, and are not translations obtained or certified by Applicants. The European Patent Office site indicates that the translations are made automatically by WorldLingo Translations.

Copies of these documents are submitted herewith along with Form PTO/SB 08a and PTO/SB 08b.

Applicants respectfully request that these documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "documents cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,


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(608) 824-8300